

Received
12.11.99
EW Center

Written Testimony
of
Richard Schrantz
to the
United States Department of the Interior
Public Hearings on Reconciliation Between
Na Kanaka Maoli o Hawai'i Nei and the United States Government

Honolulu, O'ahu
December 11, 1999

Aloha kakou,

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to express my thoughts on the subject of reconciliation between the native Hawaiian people and the United States federal government. I am speaking to you today as a Hawaiian at heart who calls these islands home and who supports a reconciliation process that is lawful, honorable, and just.

As I understand the Law of Nations and the facts surrounding the forcible overthrow of the lawful sovereign government of the Hawaiian Islands in 1893, the Hawaiian nation still exists under international law and possesses the political status of a *de jure* nation. This special status, which is that of a treated sovereign independent nation under the Law of Nations, distinguishes Na Kanaka Maoli o Hawai'i Nei from most other non-self governing peoples aspiring to nationhood.

Having extensively reviewed and studied the facts surrounding the forcible overthrow of the lawful sovereign government of the Hawaiian Islands in 1893, the unlawful annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States in 1898, and the suppression of the native Hawaiian people's perfect inherent right to sovereignty under the Law of Nations, facts which are duly affirmed and acknowledged by the US government in the Federal Apology Bill of 1993, I believe that reconciliation between the Hawaiian people and the US government must include three essential components:

1. **Recognition** of the *reinstated* lawful sovereign government of the *de jure* Hawaiian nation under the Law of Nations and resumption of full diplomatic relations;
2. **Return of all lands** belonging to the lawful sovereign government of the Hawaiian Islands, lands which were unlawfully ceded to the United States by the self-declared Republic of Hawai'i; and,
3. **Reparations** from the US government to the native Hawaiian people for its support of and role in the overthrow of their lawful sovereign government and the subsequent suppression of their perfect, inherent right to sovereignty under the Law of Nations, a suppression that has existed since 1893 and continues to the present day.

Given the facts of this complex situation, and with all due respect for this panel's interest in the matter of reconciliation, in order to establish a proper forum to begin negotiations I believe the US Department of State is the appropriate agency of the federal government to be discussing the multitude of issues that encompass reconciliation. Once the proper framework for reconciliation has been established and the proper parties begin negotiations, on a *nation-to-nation* basis, we can all look forward to a reconciliation process that is lawful, honorable, and just.

Mahalo for your interest and support in the matter of reconciliation.

12-11-99